

Name _____

Fair Or Flawed Answer Key

Passage	Evaluation	Explanation
1	One-Sided	Only students and a researcher were quoted; no school officials or other perspectives.
2	One-Sided	Only supportive voices (mayor, coach, parks official) are included; no critics or neutral sources.
3	Balanced	Multiple perspectives: business, environmental, and government data.
4	One-Sided	Relies only on opinions from students/parent; lacks expert or official sources.

Teacher Notes / Guide

Objective: Students will analyze how the **selection of sources** shapes bias and perspective in reporting. They will learn to question whether sources are diverse and balanced or narrow and one-sided.

Teaching Tips:

- Begin by defining “**sources**” in media: people, organizations, data, or documents cited in a text.
- Highlight the difference between **authority/expertise** (experts, data) and **personal opinion** (individuals, blogs).
- Use a **color-coding strategy**: mark positive/supportive sources in one color and critical/negative sources in another to visualize balance.
- Ask students: “*Whose voices are missing?*” as a tool to detect bias.

Extension Activities:

- Bring in two articles on the same event and have students map sources in a **T-chart** (supportive vs. opposing).
- Ask students to rewrite a one-sided passage by adding a missing perspective.
- Discuss real-world examples of how one-sided reporting can shape public opinion.